

See e.g., Bond v. Blum, 317 F.3d 385, 398-99 (4th Cir. 2003), *modified by sub nom Kirtseng v. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.*, 579 U.S. 1979 (2016); *see also In re Shumate*, 1991 WL 426462 at *3-4 (W.D. Va. 1991) (finding *pro se* Debtor could not award himself compensation under 11 U.S.C. §§ 330:550 due to lack of authorization by Trustee or Court and a lack of benefit to the estate) *aff'd* 976 F.2d 727, 1992 WL 245850 (4th Cir. 1992)(unpublished). Even an attorney cannot be awarded compensation awards from estate funds unless they are “employed by the trustee and approved by the court.” *Lamie v. U.S. Trustee*, 540 U.S. 526, 538-39 (2004). Finally, an application for compensation may only be granted after notice of a hearing or opportunity for hearing. Local Rule 9013-1. This motion was not properly noticed, the Debtor is not a licensed attorney, the Debtor has provided no services benefitting the estate, and the Debtor was not employed or approved by the Trustee and Court. The Debtor has no basis to recover attorney’s fees. For these reasons, the Debtor’s application for compensation is **DENIED**.

SO ORDERED.

This Order has been signed electronically.
The Judge’s signature and Court’s seal
appear at the top of the Order.

United States Bankruptcy Court